

To: Black, Ned[Black.Ned@epa.gov]
From: Wise, Robert
Sent: Wed 8/12/2015 3:33:01 PM
Subject: FW: any NORM concerns from the Silverton Area?? (fwd)

-----Original Message-----

From: Rob Runkel [mailto: **Personal Email/Ex. 6**]
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2015 1:23 PM
To: Wise, Robert; Wall, Dan
Subject: Re: any NORM concerns from the Silverton Area?? (fwd)

Rob/Dan - nothing definitive, but this is what I've recd so far

----- Forwarded message -----

Date: Tue, 11 Aug 2015 14:06:01 -0600
From: "Plumlee, Geoffrey" <gplumlee@usgs.gov>
To: "Wanty, Richard" <rwanty@usgs.gov>
Cc: Rob Runkel <r1runkel@gmail.com>, Katie Walton-Day <kwaltond@usgs.gov>, Suzanne Paschke <spaschke@usgs.gov>, "Ridley, Trude" <tking@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: any NORM concerns from the Silverton Area??

Sorry, also add, and from waters draining other adits in the area.

Geoffrey S. Plumlee, Ph.D.

Research Geochemist
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Phone: (303) 236-1204 (office); (303) 589-4746 (mobile) gplumlee@usgs.gov

See our web sites:

www.usgs.gov <<http://www.usgs.gov>>
http://minerals.cr.usgs.gov/projects/minerals_health/environmental-disasters.html*
<http://minerals.cr.usgs.gov/projects/minerals_health/environmental-disasters.html>*

On Tue, Aug 11, 2015 at 2:04 PM, Plumlee, Geoffrey <gplumlee@usgs.gov> wrote:

> I should have said in the waters emanating from the mine workings...
>
> *Geoffrey S. Plumlee, Ph.D.*
>
> *Research Geochemist*
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>
> On Tue, Aug 11, 2015 at 2:02 PM, Plumlee, Geoffrey <gplumlee@usgs.gov>
> wrote:
>
>> Rich is correct that there are uranium-rich veins in the Lake City
>> area, and our Mineral Resources Data System shows a couple of mine
>> sites within a mile or two from the Gold King for which uranium is listed as a commodity.
>> So, it is plausible that there may be some uranium in the waters.
>> Unfortunately, I so far have not found any drainage chemistry from
>> USGS Animas AML work that includes uranium.
>>
>> *Geoffrey S. Plumlee, Ph.D.*
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>> <http://minerals.cr.usgs.gov/projects/minerals_health/environmental-disasters.html>*
>>
>> On Tue, Aug 11, 2015 at 1:30 PM, Wanty, Richard <rwanty@usgs.gov> wrote:
>>
>>> I don't see any U numbers in your spreadsheets, although U is easily
>>> analyzed by conventional ICP-MS and should show up in the EPA's
>>> recent analyses, although they haven't posted it either. You might
>>> ask BK if he ever had it measured in any of the synoptic samples
>>> over the years. It is a legitimate question- other parts of the San
>>> Juans, especially around Lake City, have U deposits, but I have no
>>> idea if the higher U concentrations would extend over towards
>>> Silverton or not. Just as an FYI- any U concentration >10
>>> micrograms per liter would raise my eyebrows, just based on what you typically see. I think the MCL
>>> is near that level as well.
>>>
>>> rich
>>>
>>> On Tue, Aug 11, 2015 at 1:16 PM, Rob Runkel <Personal Email/Ex. 6> wrote:
>>>
>>>> All --
>>>>
>>>> that's OK, I didn't know what it meant either (Naturally occurring
>>>> radioactive material)
>>>>
>>>> I'm in the response center in Durango. EPA has been getting calls
>>>> from the State of Arizona, w/ concerns over NORM. I don't recall
>>>> any talk of uranium and/or radioactive materials from the AML days

>>> -- what do you think
>>> - is it a legitimate concern?
>>>
>>> any info appreciated.
>>>
>>> -----
>>> Rob Runkel
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>>> U.S. Geological Survey
>>> runkel@usgs.gov
>>> 303.541.3013
>>> <http://profile.usgs.gov/runkel>
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